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124237

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EXAMINER

RINEHART, KENNETH

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 3749

The applicant's arguments filed 3/14/08 are not persuasive. Claims in a pending application should be given their broadest reasonable interpretation. Therefore, the examiner does not believe that it is unreasonable for the entrained bed dryer to read on the gasification reactor. The heating occurs where the two streams (28 and 32) meet. The pump provides the motive force to the sludge, for without the pump the sludge which is the whole mixture would not travel in the manner claimed. Regarding the pressures, clearly the pump must operate to cover the range of 100 to 1500 psia. This range overlaps that of 1.5MPa to 22.12 MPa. Therefore, as the pump must operate at a higher pressure to supply the liquid, it is presently capable of operating in the range claimed. Regarding Buchanan this reference was used to teach the detail of larger gradually or stepwise for a swirling type nozzle. Bissett discloses the swirling nozzle. The secondary reference is more evidentiary than teaching as swirling type nozzles possesses the attributes claimed. The applicant is merely combining prior art according to known methods to yield predictable results.

/Kenneth B Rinehart/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3749